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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,422	09/30/2003	Hui-Jan Chien	ACMP0129USA	2421

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NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 506
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

EXAMINER

KASSA, YOSEF

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/09/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 03/09/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

winstonhsu.uspto@gmail.com
Patent.admin.uspto.Rcv@naipo.com
mis.ap.uspto@naipo.com.tw

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,422

Applicant(s)

CHIEN, HUI-JAN

Examiner

YOSEF KASSA

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/30/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Damera-Venkata (U.S. Patent 6,920,243), and further in view of Buhr et al (U.S. Patent 6,791,716).

With regard to claim 1, Damera-Venkata discloses performing a transformation process to transform an original image signal into CIE XYZ colorimetric channels (please refer col. 5, lines 30-34);

forming a luminance channel Y (refer col. 5, lines 35-45);

applying a filter on the luminance channel Y to obtain a processed luminance channel Y" (refer col. 5, lines 35-45);

computing processed colorimetric channels X" and Z" based on the processed luminance channel Y" (refer col. 5, lines 36-44); and

performing an inverse transformation process to transform the processed colorimetric channels X"Y"Z" into a processed image signal (refer col. 5, lines 55-59).

Damera-Venkata does not disclose expressly for increase sharpness of the image without changing hue characteristics. However, at the same field of endeavor, Buhr discloses this feature (please refer to col. 5, lines 50-65, that is, controlling hue process). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching Buhr image reproducing process into Damera-Venkata system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide producing the visual reproduction to meet both the hue and color enhancement process (please refer to col. 6, lines 55-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Buhr with Damera-Venkata to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

With regard to claim 4, Damera-Venkata discloses (a) the transformation process comprises transforming RGB values of the original image signal into CIE XYZ colorimetric channels (refer col. 5, lines 30-38).

With regard to claim 5, Damera-Venkata discloses step (e) the inverse transformation process comprises transforming the processed colorimetric channels X"Y"Z" into R"G"B" values of the processed image signal (refer col. 5, lines 54-59).

With regard to claim 6, Damera-Venkata discloses (a) the transformation process comprises transforming CMYK values of the original image signal into CIE XYZ colorimetric channels (refer col. 6, lines 5-12).

With regard to claim 7, Damera-Venkata discloses (e) the inverse transformation process comprises transforming the processed colorimetric channels X"Y"Z" into C"M"Y"K" values of the processed image signal (refer col. 6, lines 1-6).

With regard to claim 10, Damera-Venkata discloses an image processing apparatus (refer col. 5, lines 1-8).

2. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Damera-Venkata (U.S. Patent 6,920,243) and Buhr et al (U.S. Patent 6,791,716), and further in view of Matama (U.S. Patent 6,603,886).

With regard to claim 2, Damera-Venkata and Buhr are silent about the filter applied in step (c) is an unsharp masking (USM) filter. However, at the same field of endeavor, Matama discloses this feature (please refer to refer col. 6, lines 60-65). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching Matama's image sharpening process into Damera-Venkata and Buhr system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide representing unsharp mask image for shutting light processing (please refer to col. 6, lines 55-65 or Matama).

With regard to claim 3, Damera-Venkata is silent about the filter applied in step (c) is a sharpness filter. However, at the same field of endeavor, Matama discloses this feature (please refer to refer col. 6, lines 60-65). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching Matama's image sharpening process into Damera-Venkata and Buhr system. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide representing unsharp mask image for shutting light processing (please refer to col. 6, lines 55-65 or Matama).

Other Prior Art Cited

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. (6118907), (6057935), (6421468) and (6480300).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOSEF KASSA whose telephone number is (571) 272-7452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for regular communication and (571) 273-8300 for after Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PATENT EXAMINER

Yosef Kassa

02/21/2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kassa', with a stylized, cursive script.